

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1-48. (Cancelled)

49. (New) A method for processing a query comprising:

receiving from a first computer system a request to process a query at a second computer system;

the second computer system utilizing metadata to process the query and generate a result for the query, the metadata utilized to process the query not having been stored on the second computer system prior to the second computer system receiving the request to process the query; and

the second computer system returning the result of the query to the first computer system.

50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein receiving from a first computer system a request to process a query at a second computer system includes receiving from a first computer system a request to perform an operation on data not having been stored on the second computer system prior to the second computer system receiving the request to process the query.

51. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the query includes the data and the metadata required to process the query.
52. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein the query includes a pointer to the data and the metadata required to process the query.
53. (New) The method of claim 52, wherein:  
the data and the metadata required to process the query are stored on a third computer system separate from the second computer system; and  
the pointer points to the data and the metadata stored on the third computer system.
54. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the second computer system is in communication with the first computer system through a network.
55. (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the network comprises the Internet.
56. (New) The method of claim 55, wherein:  
the second computer system receives the request to process the query from the first computer system in accordance with a first Internet protocol; and  
the second computer system processes the query in accordance with a second Internet protocol.

57. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the first computer system comprises a client machine and the second computer system comprises a server machine.

58. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein the metadata comprises information about objects.

59. (New) The method of claim 58, wherein the objects comprise one or more objects selected from the group consisting of tables, triggers and indexes.

60. (New) A computer readable medium containing program instructions tangibly stored thereon for processing a query, the program instructions comprising instructions operable to cause a data processor to:

receive from a first computer system a request to process a query at a second computer system;

utilize metadata to process the query and generate a result for the query at the second computer system, the metadata utilized to process the query not having been stored on the second computer system prior to the second computer system receiving the request to process the query; and

return the result of the query from the second computer system to the first computer system.

61. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the instructions to receive from a first computer system a request to process a query at a second computer

system include instructions to receive from a first computer system a request to perform an operation on data not having been stored on the second computer system prior to the second computer system receiving the request to process the query.

62. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 61, wherein the query includes the data and the metadata required to process the query.

63. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 61, wherein the query includes a pointer to the data and the metadata required to process the query.

64. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 63, wherein:  
the data and the metadata required to process the query are stored on a third computer system separate from the second computer system; and  
the pointer points to the data and the metadata stored on the third computer system.

65. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the second computer system is in communication with the first computer system through a network.

66. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 65, wherein the network comprises the Internet.

67. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 66, wherein:

the second computer system receives the request to process the query from the first computer system in accordance with a first Internet protocol; and

the second computer system processes the query in accordance with a second Internet protocol.

68. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the first computer system comprises a client machine and the second computer system comprises a server machine.

69. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 60, wherein the metadata comprises information about objects.

70. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 69, wherein the objects comprise one or more objects selected from the group consisting of tables, triggers and indexes.

71. (New) A system for processing a query comprising:

a first computer system to,

receive a request to process a query from a second computer system;

utilizing metadata to process the query and generate a result for the query,

the metadata utilized to process the query not having been stored on the first computer

system prior to the first computer system receiving the request to process the query; and

return the result of the query to the second computer system.

72. (New) The system of claim 71, the query comprises a request to perform an operation on data not having been stored on the first computer system prior to the first computer system receiving the request to process the query.

73. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the query further comprises the data and the metadata required to process the query.

74. (New) The system of claim 72, wherein the query further comprises a pointer to the data and the metadata required to process the query.

75. (New) The system of claim 74, wherein:

the data and the metadata required to process the received query are stored on a third computer system separate from the first computer system; and

the pointer points to the data and the metadata stored on the third computer system.

76. (New) The system of claim 71, wherein the first computer system is in communication with the second computer system through a network.

77. (New) The system of claim 76, wherein the network comprises the Internet.

78. (New) The system of claim 77, wherein:

the first computer system receives the request to process the query from the second computer system in accordance with a first Internet protocol; and

the first computer system processes the query in accordance with a second Internet protocol.

79. (New) The system of claim 71, wherein the first computer system comprises a server machine and the second computer system comprises a client machine.

80. (New) The system of claim 71, wherein the metadata comprises information about objects.

81. (New) The system of claim 80, wherein the objects comprise one or more objects selected from the group consisting of tables, triggers and indexes.